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ABSTRACT

This categorized 121-item annotated bibliography should prove useful to teachers in each of the content areas. The books listed are children's choices and are guaranteed to be informational and entertaining as students study math, health, science social studies, and the language arts. (RAE)

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CONTENT-AREA-RELATED BOOKS RECOMMENDED BY CHILDREN: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY SELECTED FROM CHILDREN'S CHOICE 1975-1988.

Elizabeth C. Webre

One goal of content area teachers is to reveal the fact that not all is encased within the covers of the content area text. Much more can be learned about an individual or an era or a concept through other sources, more specifically through trade books. Content area teachers can successfully introduce their students to interesting trade books by utilizing Children's Choices, an annotated list of books chosen by children. Each year since 1975, the International Reading Association - Children's Book Council Joint Committee - has published a list of new children's trade books - books to which children have responded enthusiastically.

Over the past fourteen years, hundreds of books have been read and identified by children as being their favorites. Some of their favorite choices have been fiction, but others have dealt with the content and skills that are the forte of the content area teacher. Knowing which trade books appeal to children is helpful in making available books that reinforce and expand the concepts of concern to the content area teacher and his students.

For example, the math teacher often has some difficulty overcoming his students' math phobia. The I Hate Mathematics! Book presents math as the useful tool that it is. Another book for the math table is How Much is a Million?, an "amazing-but-true type book."

On the other hand, the teacher concerned with health concepts will find useful Good for Me! All About Food in 32 Bites, a potpourri of fact, trivia and experimentation about food and nutrition. Opportunity to experiment

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is also very much a part of Your Amazing Senses: 36 Games, Puzzles and Tricks That Show How Your Senses Work.

Many books included in Children's Choices are useful to the science teacher and to the social studies teacher. The 17 Gerbils of Class 4A, for example, is good for any class that studies animals. In fact the book integrates all areas of the curriculum. Pets in a Jar is a "how to" manual for caring for small animals. Bees Can't Fly, But They Do relates six scientific mysteries and challenges the reader to find other unsolved scientific phenomenon.

The Popcorn Book is useful for both science and social studies since it includes popcorn lore and history, as well as why it pops. Another book about the same subject and simply entitled Popcorn introduces the fact that popcorn was in evidence 2000 years ago and shows the life cycle of the plant.

Several of the books chosen by children during the last fourteen years revolve around the American Revolution: Can't You Make Them Behave, King George?; The Man with the Silver Eyes; Deborah Sampson: Soldier of the Revolution; Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?; Patriots in Petticoats; and Remember Betsy Floss and Other Colonial Riddles. These books and several others lend color and humor to the study of the early days of our country.

The language arts teacher can find a wealth of stimulating books in the listings. As a means of creating interest in words, such books as A Chocolate Moose for Dinner, Marms in the Marmalade, and Ink, Ark, and All That could be utilized.

Other books would prove quite useful in stimulating creative writing. Concrete poetry is presented in Seeing Things: A Book of Poems. A book of fibs Merry, Merry FIBruary, a book of riddles Fiddle with a Riddle, and a book of slime in rhyme The Slimy Book are books which stimulate students to create their own writing.

The language arts teacher searching for an appealing play or dramatic reading should delve into How to Eat Fried Worms and Other Plays or Is There an Actor in the House? or The Tiger's Bones and Other Plays for Children.

The categorized list that follows should prove useful to teachers in each of the content areas. The books listed are children's choices and are guaranteed to be informational and entertaining as students study math, health, science, social studies, and the language arts.

MATHEMATICS

Adler, David. Roman Numerals. Ill. by Byron Barton, Crowell, 1977.

Reasons for the development of the Roman numeral system, its usage today, and interesting possibilities as to how the symbols might have been chosen for each number, provide new incentive for learning this number system.

Burns, Marilyn. The I Hate Mathematics! Book. Ill. by Martha Hairston. Little, Brown, 1975.

This book proves to be an all-purpose amusement center for children of all ages (six to adult). A fourth grader used it for his birthday party games; his nineteen-year-old sister used it to stump her dates; his mom loves it for rainy-day assistance. It presents math as the most useful tool that it really is.

Schwartz, David. How Much Is a Million? Ill. by Steven Kellogg. Lothrop, 1985.

To count from one to a billion will take you 95 years. This is an amazing-but-true whopper book for the math table with computational information at the end.

Vreuls, Diane. Sums: A Looking Game. Viking, 1977.

A wordless picture puzzle book in which familiar objects have been divided into pieces (addends) and presented in the format of addition problems. The addends appear on the right-hand page, the whole (sum) appears on the left when the page is turned. Clear, simple black and white drawings of the objects and their sums challenge eager children to try each puzzle and then check their answers.

HEALTH

Burns, Marilyn. Good for Me! All About Food in 12 Bites. Ill. by Sandy Clifford. Little, Brown. 1978.

A potpourri of fact, trivia, and experimentation about food and nutrition. Here you can learn the history of carbonated water, why tomatoes were once considered poisonous, and how to check if a food contains fat. Lively cartoons further enhance the mood.

Clymer, Eleanor. Hamburgers -- and Ice Cream for Dessert. Ill. by Roy Doty. Dutton, 1975.

The perfect book to share with kids who won't try new foods, this story shows the folly of rigidity. Text encourages discussion and can be used in connection with study of food groups and lunch-room eating habits.

Simon, Seymour. Body Sense, Body Nonsense. Ill. by Dennis Kendrick. Lippincott, 1981.

Common bits of advice that children have heard having to do with their health and well-being are examined by a science educator and a cartoonist. Some make sense, others are nonsense. Young readers respond to the book as they do to a guessing game.

van der Meer, Ron and Atie. Your Amazing Senses: 36 Games, Puzzles, and Tricks That Show How Your Senses Work. Ill. by the authors. Aladdin, 1989.

Children really enjoy this book because they are actively involved with the text and get to participate and experiment on every page. As one child put it, "You don't have to go find the stuff so you can try the experiment. Everything is right there for you!"

SCIENCE

Allison, Linda. The Wild Inside. Ill. by the author. Sierra Club/ Scribner, 1979.

This book explores the inhabitants of the wilderness (bats, birds, mice, flies) in familiar places, the mountains (rocks, crystals, dust) in our houses, as well as happenings at home (plumbing, fireplace, electricity). Humorous and informative drawings help explain basic scientific princples.

Bunting, Eve. The Sea World Book of Sharks. Ill. with photographs by Flip Nicklin. Harcourt, 1977.

A concise, interesting text and colorful, clear photographs blend to present in vivid detail the world of sharks. Readers will develop a sense of appreciation for this often-misunderstood creature.

Carrick, Carol. The Blue Lobster. Ill. by Donald Carrick. Dial, 1975.

This is a life cycle story children like for listening and for close-up study.

Carrick, Carol. Octopus. Ill. by Donald Carrick. Seabury, 1978.

There is drama in this skillfully written, vividly painted account of the life cycle of a female octopus.

Carrick, Carol. Sand Tiger Shark. Ill. by Donald Carrick. Seabury, 1977.

A no-nonsense narrative provides the framework for this story of the life cycle of the sand tiger shark.

Cobb, Vicki. More Science Experiments You Can Eat. Ill. by Giulio Maestro. Lippincott, 1979.

Simple scientific processes can be observed in changes in food. The majority of the experiments can be performed in a typical classroom with ordinary kitchen utensils. Each chapter includes a short explanation of what will be proved, a list of materials needed, and a detailed procedure. But best of all, everybody gets to taste the results!

Cole, Joanna. A Calf is Born. Photographs by Jerome Wexler. Morrow, 1975.

A book kids pick up again and again because of the photographs of real live animals and the birth of a calf. This could be used as supplemental material for a unit in career education and life on a farm.

Cole, Joanna. A Chick Hatches. Photographs by Jerome Wexler. Morrow, 1976.

Useful in science classes as well as for individual reading.

Davies, Eryl. Ocean Frontiers. Ill. with photographs and diagrams. Viking, 1980.

An informational book about ocean exploration, oceanography, fishing, ocean research, and conversation. Terms are defined, "know-how boxes" explain how things work, and projects are suggested.

de Paola, Tomie. The Popcorn Book. Ill. by the author. Holiday, 1978.

A part of the first Thanksgiving dinner, popcorn has been enjoyed for many centuries. Archeologists recently found some 5,600 years old. All the kernels of popcorn lore are right here, including why it pops and varied recipes for its preparation.

Earle, Olive L. with Michael Kantor. Animals and Their Ears. Ill. by the author. Morrow, 1974.

An informational book about the forms and functions of animal ears. Explanations of some unique hearing devices will appeal to children's curiosity.

Fischer-Nagel, Heiderose and Andreas. A Kitten is Born. Translated by Andrea Mernan. Ill. with photographs by the authors. Putnam, 1983.

Clear, color photographs combine with simple language to explain cats from conception, through birth and early weeks, until kittens can be placed in new homes of their own.

Flower, Phyllis. Barn Owl. Ill. by Cherryl Pape. Harper, 1978.

A young owlet is born. This is the story of his growth until he is the father of his own young owlets. Subjects such as hunting, learning to fly and mating are discussed. This is an easy-to-read introduction to natural science.

Foster, Sally. A Pup Grows Up. Photographs by Sally Foster. Dodd, 1984.

The text is informational in nature and holds the reader's interest through the inclusion of little-known facts about dogs.

Freschet, Berniece. Grizzly Bear. Ill. by Donald Carrick. Scribner's, 1976.

The story line of this informational book takes a mother grizzly and her two cubs through a season of training for survival that leads to independence.

Goodwin, Harold. Top Secret: Alligators! Ill. by the author. Bradbury, 1975.

Kids who have mysteriously lost a flushable pet will delight in this story where alligators live in a big city sewer and talk. Relates to scientific study of hatching and normal habitat of alligators with some ecology and humanism thrown in.

Grillone, Lisa and Joseph Gennaro. Small Worlds Close Up. Ill. with photographs. Crown, 1978.

Sections on animals, vegetables and minerals, plus an informative introduction make this an excellent choice for young scientists. Actual electron micrographs are eye-catching and enthralling, and the text is concise, detailed and interesting.

Hess, Lilo. Small Habitats. Photographs by author. Scribner's, 1976.

Black and white photographs, lucid text, and clear, accurate directions add to the natural interest children have in creating terrariums. Advice is provided on gathering plants and animals from their natural homes and establishing a comfortable and safe place for them. This is an excellent addition for the classroom interested in reconstructing a part of nature in miniature.

McCreight, Ruby E. Horses. Ill. by Paul Frame. Lodestar/Dutton, 1981.

This easy-to-read factual book gives the reader a lot of interesting and true information about horses.

Miles, Betty. Save the Earth: An Ecology Handbook for Kids. Ill. by Clarie A. Nivola. Knopf, 1974.

This book would be welcome material for a study of ecology, developing the idea of the importance of caring for our land. The suggested projects reinforce concepts developed in the text about land, air and water.

Moore, Patrick. The Space Shuttle Action Book. Ill. by Tom Stimpson. Paper engineering by Vic Duppa-Whyte. Random, 1983.

This pop-up book describes the space shuttle from lift-off to touchdown.

Quackenbush, Robert. Take Me Out to the Airfield! How the Wright Brothers Invented the Airplane. Parents', 1976.

A colorfully illustrated, easy-to-read biography of the Wright brothers and their development of the first successful motor-powered airplane. Simple instructions on "how to build a model Wright flyer" from toothpicks and styrofoam are included for young engineering minds.

Ryden, Hope. The Little Deer of the Florida Keys. Ill. with photographs by the author. Putnam, 1978.

The fate of the key deer is described. The size of a small dog, the key deer was nearly extinct when a long-term campaign was begun to save the species. The yearly cycle, family and mating behavior, and other habits are highlights in a dramatic book.

Shaw, Evelyn. A Nest of Wood Ducks. Ill. by Cherryl Pape. Harper, 1976.

This "Science I Can Read Book" is liked by all younger children who have been frightened by harder informational books.

Schilling, Betty. Two Kittens Are Born. Ill. with photographs by the author. Holt, 1980.

This photographic record and factual account of the birth and early life of two kittens attracts all age groups.

Selsam, Millicent. Popcorn. Photographs by Jerome Wexler. Morrow, 1976.

After introducing the fact that Indians grew popcorn 2,000 years ago, the books shows the life cycle of a popcorn plant and gives suggestions for growing popcorn at home. Also tells important current uses of plants in the corn family.

Hooks, William H. The 17 Gerbils of Class 4A. Ill. by Joel Schick. Coward, 1976.

Taking care of a pair of gerbils in a classroom can lead to knowledge and humor. It also results in more gerbils. A very popular animal book, good for any class that studies animals. The book integrates all areas of the curriculum.

Iverson, Genie. Jacques Cousteau. Ill. by Hal Ashmead. Putnam's, 1976.

The early life, achievements and ecological concerns of Jacques Cousteau are well presented in this biography. An excellent choice to read with science units on ecology and oceanography.

Jones, Eurfron Gwynne. Television Magic. Ill. with photographs and drawings. Viking, 1978.

Everything you wanted to know about television -- and then some. The inner workings of satellite coverage, special effects, and cameras are explained, and there are experiments to do with household equipment. The eye-catching "easy" format of this British import is deceiving, however. It's comprehensive and often technically oriented.

Knight, David C. Bees Can't Fly, But They Do. Ill. by Barbara Wolff. Macmillan, 1976.

Children are thrilled to realize that even scientists don't know all the answers. The book gives six mysteries of science, offering possible explanations and challenging the reader to find other unsolved scientific problems.

Knight, David C. Dinosaur Days. Ill. by Joel Schick. McGraw, 1977.

An introduction to the dinosaur age, appropriately called the Age of the Reptiles, and an explanation of how scientists verify information by studying fossils, are followed by short paragraphs about 18 dinosaurs, sea reptiles, and flying reptiles. Each reptile is illustrated. Possible explanations for the end of the Age of Reptiles are included.

Lambert, David. The Age of Dinosaurs. Ill. by John Francis et al. Random, 1987.

All about the Dinosaur Age and how dinosaurs looked. The colorfully detailed illustrations and pullout poster delight children.

McClung, Robert M. Sea Star. Ill. by the author. Morrow, 1975.

An informational book about sea shells that starts with the starfish. Accurate information for identification of the shells is presented with clear, soft illustrations. Useful for science trips to the shore, and for labeling and categorizing treasures brought back from the sea.

Selsam, Millicent. Tyrannosaurus Rex. Ill. with photographs. Harper, 1978.

A fascinating nonfiction account of finding and assembling a skeleton of Tyrannosaurus Rex. This book also discusses the Earth when dinosaurs reigned, and raises questions that will spark the interest of junior geologists.

Simon, Seymour. Pets in a Jar. Ill. by Betty Fraser. Viking, 1975.

When the garter snakes, salamanders, snails, skunks and others are in season, this book is indispensable for children. It's a "how-to" manual on capturing and caring for small animals. Reading level is definitely intermediate.

Smith, Hobart M. and Edmund D. Brodie, Jr. Reptiles of North America. Ill. by David M. Dennis and Sy Barlowe. Western Publishing Company/Golden Books, 1982.

The Golden Guide contains compact factual information on all reptiles of North America, including information on growth, biology, care, dormancy, and defenses. The section for identifying species is clearly and easily followed. Students enjoy illustrations which compare and contrast different groups and families of snakes.

Tarrant, Graham. Frogs. Ill. by Tony King. Paper engineering by James Roger Diaz. Putnam, 1983.

This movable book offers factual and understandable information about the life cycle of the frog.

Van Soelen, Philip. A Cricket in the Grass. Ill. by the author. Sierra Club, Scribner, 1979.

Five different wordless stories are graphically presented through drawings which depict a variety of animal and plant habitats: a grassland, an oak log, a sow thistle, a stream, and a salt marsh. Brief explanations are provided at the end of the book.

White, Laurence B. Jr., and Ray Broekel. Optical Illusions. With diagrams by Anne Canevari Green and photographs. Watts, 1987.

Things are not always what they seem at first glance, as the optical illusions in this book demonstrate. Color and black and white illustrations provide plenty of illusions, and there are even optical tricks to try around the house.

Zallinger, Peter. Dinosaurs and Other Archosaurs. Ill. by the author. Random, 1986.

"I like all of the pitchers of all the dinosaurs." The fact that this reader can spell dinosaur and not picture represents the enduring fascination prehistoric animals have held for children of all ages over the ages. This book meets this interest.

Zim, Herbert S. The Big Cats. Ill. by Dot Barlowe. Morrow, 1976.

Detailed factual information provides supplemental material for a social studies/science unit on big cats and their habitats as well as providing a basis for discussing population growth and human needs in relation to endangering the cat species.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Abells, Chana Byers. The Children We Remember. Ill. with photographs. Greenwillow, 1986.

This powerful, photographic essay recounts the fate of Jewish children during the Holocaust.

Adler, David A. Remember Betsy Ross and Other Colonial American Riddles. Ill. by John Wallner. Holiday, 1987.

A great book for the riddle lover.

Aliki. Mummies Made in Egypt. Ill. by the author. Crowell, 1979.

This informative book begins with an explanation of why the Egyptians mummified their dead and continues to describe the process of mummification, burial rites, and construction of pyramids.

Baylor, Byrd. They Put on Masks. Ill. by Jerry Ingram. Scribner's, 1974.

A fine blend of words and illustrations describing Indians' uses of masks in ceremonial messages to their gods. Children are challenged to plan messages and masks they would like to produce.

Burch, Robert. Hut School and the Wartime Homefront Heroes. Ill. by Ronald Himler. Viking, 1974.

This World War II story interestingly portrays the difficulties of life during a war. The cooperative attitude of the children in helping pick cotton, accepting a makeshift school, and being supportive when a child's brother is killed are strong points of this book.

Clapp, Patricia. Dr. Elizabeth: A Biography of the First Woman Doctor. Lothrop, 1974.

A diary-style account of the first woman doctor in the United States, reporting the challenges, victories and bitter disappointments in Elizabeth Blackwell's life. She pioneered in fighting for women's rights to serve humanity.

Clyne, Patricia Edwards. Patriots in Petticoats. Ill. by Richard Lebenson. Dodd, 1976.

A series of brief biographical sketches of women who played important roles in the forming of our nation. Especially good as a reference while studying the Revolutionary War period through the War of 1812. The book also gives information about monuments and places of interest that can be visited.

Felton, Harold W. Deborah Sampson: Soldier of the Revolution. Ill. by John Martinez. Dodd, 1976.

The story of the first woman to bear arms in the U.S. Army.

Fritz, Jean. Can't You Make Them Behave, King George? Ill. by Tomie de Paola. Coward, 1977.

The American Revolution takes on a new, human, and humorous dimension with this characterization of King George the Third, presented with all his foibles and idiosyncrasies.

Fritz, Jean. What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin? Ill. by Margot Tomes. Coward, 1976.

Jean Fritz presents a fine upper-primary biography on an early American -- Ben Franklin -- and his many inventions. The author's detailed factual "notes" as well as the illustrator's accurate drawings of inventions stimulate further search for information on Mr. Franklin.

Fritz, Jean. Will You Sign Here, John Hancock? Ill. by Trina Schart Hyman. Coward, 1976.

John Hancock's life and accomplishments are pictured in a human and humorous manner.

Garrigue, Sheila. All the Children Were Sent Away. Bradbury, 1976.

At the age of eight, Sarah is sent away from her home in England. She is an evacuee, fleeing the bombings of 1940. Aboard the ship bound for Canada, she finds other problems: a disapproving guardian and a torpedo scare. The book has an autobiographical tone and shows appealing characters living in a troubled time.

Grant, Anne. Danbury's Burning! The Story of Sybil Ludington's Ride. Ill. by Pat Howell. Walck, 1976.

This is a fast-paced retelling of an exciting ride in 1777 to warn American colonists of the approach of British soldiers.

Greenfield, Eloise. Mary McLeod Bethune. Ill. by Jerry Pinkney. Crowell, 1977.

As a young Black girl working on a farm, Mary could not begin school until she was eleven. No one in her family could read, but Mary finished school and became a teacher. After she married and had a son, she fulfilled a lifelong dream of starting her own school. This is an appealing biography about an important Black woman.

Haviland, Virginia (selected by). North American Legends. Ill. by Ann Strugnell. Philomel (Collins), 1979.

A broad collection of stories from different cultures found in North America. Young readers were particularly interested in the sections relating to Indian and Eskimo legends.

Herman, Charlotte. The Difference of Ari Stein. Ill. by Ben Schecter. Harper, 1976.

Jewish Ari moves to a mixed neighborhood and tries to be one of the boys. He discovers that, while he needs friends, he can't give up all the things that make him an individual. Good for comparative religion discussions.

Heyerdahl, Thor. Kon-Tiki: A True Adventure of Survival at Sea. Adapted by Lisa Norby. Ill. with drawings by Ronald Himler and photographs. Random, 1984.

Can six men cross the Pacific on a raft? Thor Heyerdahl's attempts to prove a legend are retold in the exciting and informative account of the Ra expedition.

Hilton, Suzanne. The Way It Was -- 1876. Ill. with old prints and photographs. Westminister, 1975.

A fine source for unusual historical information. Old prints, photographs, and diary excerpts yield great detail about life in 1876.

Knight, Joan. Journey to Japan. Ill. by Kinuko Craft. Viking, 1986.

Domestic, cultural, and economic aspects of contemporary Japan spring to life through the clever design of pop-up pages. Also appealing are the simple Japanese phrases that children like to learn and use.

Krementz, Jill. A Visit to Washington, D.C. Ill. with photographs by the author. Scholastic, 1987.

In effect a tour guide of our nation's capitol.

Kushner, Ellen. Statue of Liberty Adventure #58. Ill. by Ted Enik. Paper ed. Bantam, 1986.

While on a class trip to the Statue of Liberty, you must choose from an array of adventures. Filled with information about the history and structure of the Statue.

Lasker, Joe. Merry Ever After: The Story of Two Medieval Weddings. Ill. by the author. Viking, 1976.

The story tells of two couples who marry in medieval times: one in a noble wedding, one in a peasant. As the couples prepare for the weddings and the social customs unfold, information about life in the Middle Ages is conveyed. Much of the information was gleaned from medieval and early Renaissance paintings; many of the illustrations show the influence of the great painters from the period.

Lifton, Betty Jean. Jaguar, My Twin. Ill. by Ann Leggett. Atheneum, 1976.

The Zinacantecs of Mexico believe that each person has a twin spirit from the animal world. In Shun's village, where the coming of electricity is looked on by some as evil, Shun's father stands out as a progressive man who recognizes the good it can do. The book reflects the pull between ancient and modern cultures as Shun's Jaguar spirit saves him from a spell cast by a shaman. The book is a good resource for a unit on Mexico.

Lively, Penelope. Going Back. Dutton, 1975.

The present is never lost in telling of village life in England during World War II. Many possibilities for working with children in literature and in social studies.

Lowe, Malcolm V. Fighters. Ill. by Peter Sarson and Tony Bryan. Lerner, 1985.

An information packed book describing 13 fighter aircraft with a section on military techniques of the future.

Macaulay, David. Pyramid. Ill. by author. Houghton, 1975.

Richly detailed pictures, explanatory diagrams, and lucid expository writing bring to life the story of a great pyramid and the ancient culture that produced it.

Mann, Peggy, and Katica Prusina. A Present for Yanya. Ill. by Douglas Gorsline. Random, 1975.

Life is difficult and lonely for Yanya in post-World War II Yugoslavia until she ingeniously earns the money to buy a beautiful and extravagant doll. An excellent background to Europe's change of lifestyle after a war.

Murphy, Barbara Beasley, and Norman Baker. Thor Heyerdahl and the Reed Boat Ra. Ill. with photographs. Lippincott, 1974.

An account of the voyage of Ra II, enhanced by clear and interesting photographs.

Rutland, Jonathan. Knights and Castles. Ill. by John Berry et al. Random, 1987.

Travel back in time to the Middle Ages and explore castle life and the daily lives of knights. Visually stimulating and historically informative.

Schwartz, Alvin (collected by). Cross Your Fingers, Spit in Your Hat: Superstitions and Other Beliefs. Ill. by Glen Rounds. Lippincott, 1974.

This book is full of short superstitions and need not be read cover to cover. Reading some aloud gets children interested. This book could supplement a study of American subcultures or early American history.

Shapiro, Mary J. How They Built the Statue of Liberty. Ill. by Huck Scarry. Random, 1985.

Included are step-by-step descritpions as well as detailed illustrations. This impressive text can lead to a lively discussion on the art of conducting research.

Sloan, Frank. Titanic. Ill. with photographs. Watts, 1987.

Seventy-five years after the tragic end of the Titanic, older readers are intrigued with the mysteries surrounding that voyage. Titanic is an informative account not only of the sinking of the ship but also of the searches that followed to discover how and why it sank.

Steele, William O. The Man with the Silver Eyes. Harcourt, 1976.

William Steele's story of frontier life is useful for studying the Revolutionary War period. Information about the era, Cherokee life, and becoming an adult are a part of an exciting plot.

Supree, Burton, with Ann Ross. Bear's Heart. Afterword by Jamake Highwater. Lippincott, 1977.

Bear's Heart was a Cheyenne who, after being imprisoned in Florida, chronicled the life of his people in pictures. The text supplies a running commentary to supplement the illustrative history.

Tripp, Valerie. Meet Molly: An American Girl. Ill. by C. F. Payne, vignettes by Keith Skeen and Renee Graef. Pleasant, 1986.

Step back in time to the World War II era and follow the antics of Molly, her family, and friends as one trick leads to another until the situation almost gets out of hand. The period illustrations help children visualize what life was like in 1944.

Walker, Alice. Langston Hughes, American Poet. Ill. by Don Miller. Crowell, 1974.

Third and fourth graders find it easy to read and comprehend. Factual and honest. Permits Black children to relate and other children to understand minority problems.

Windrow, Martin. The World War II GI. Ill. by Kevin Lyles. Watts, 1986.

From basic training to medics, from weapons to battle tactics, the life of a GI is described. Includes finely detailed illustrations.

Yep, Laurence. Dragonwings. Harper, 1975.

Well researched historical novel set in early 20th century San Francisco Chinatown, giving vivid details of Chinese folklore, racial relationships, the 1906 earthquake and a fictionalized account of a Chinese man who built a flying machine with help from the Wright brothers. Excellent discussion material countering Chinese-American stereotypes. Received 1976 IRA Children's Book Award.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Adoff, Arnold. Make a Circle Keep Us In: Poems for a Good Day. Ill. by Ronald Himler. Delacorte, 1975.

A group of poems about getting up, growing up, living, rain and thunder. The arrangement of the words on the printed page, as well as the excellent choice of words by the author, present a new and interesting adventure in reading.

Adoff, Arnold.(Ed.). My Black Me: A Beginning Book of Black Poetry. Dutton, 1974.

Introduction, author and first line indices. A collection of poetry written by recognized Black poets. A sense of the Black experience springs through the work.

Adoff, Arnold. Tornado! Ill. by Ronald Himler. Delacorte, 1977.

In creative free verse, the mood, atmosphere, tense feelings, and relief that accompany a tornado are poignantly expressed.

Aliki. How a Book is Made. Ill. by author. Crowell, 1986.

This book strongly supports a publishing center. The cartoon format touches on all aspects of "book-making".

Andrews, Jan. Very Last First Time. Ill. by Ian Wallace. McElderrv, 1986.

An Inuit girl is sent beneath the ice when the tide goes out, to collect mussels from the bottom of the sea. It's an enchanting land down there -- until the candle goes out and the sea rushes in. A good selection for dramatization!

Bernstein, Joanne E. Fiddle with a Riddle. Ill. by Giulio Maestro. Dutton, 1976.

Want to learn how to conduct a riddle treasure hunt? Twist famous names around and create new riddles? This book provides a handsome variety of clues and ideas guaranteed to turn casual riddle makers into addicts.

Bradley, Virginia. Is There an Actor in the House? Dodd, Mead, 1975.

A collection of plays for reading aloud, acting out, pantomiming or just enjoying. Excellent for stimulating creative dramatics, creative writing, oral interpretation and storytelling.

Caudill, Rebecca. Wind, Sand and Sky. Ill. by Donald Carrick. Dutton, 1976.

The deserts of our country assume a new meaning after reading this informative, interesting book of haiku. The words and pictures capture an element of beauty unsuspected by most children.

Cole, Babette. The Slimy Book. Ill. by author. Random, 1986.

Clever comic watercolors charm readers into an exploration of all forms of slime in rhyme. Younger children cringed with shared enthusiasm, and older readers laughed.

Cole, William (Selected by). Poem Stew. Ill. by Karen Weinhaus. Lippincott, 1981.

These 57 witty food poems are written by authors such as Shel Silverstein, Ogden Nash, Myra Cohn Livingston, and John Updike. The collection provides a delightful introduction to poetry.

Fadiman, Clifton. Wally the Wordworm. Ill. by Lisa Atherton, Stemmer, 1984.

Wally's voracious appetite for words is revived by the dictionary. Outrageously illustrated puns, puzzles, anagrams, and other plays on words.

Froman, Robert. Seeing Things: A Book of Poems. Lettering by Ray Barber. Crowell, 1974.

Concrete poetry written so that graphic form becomes a part of the message. It will motivate children to experiment with writing and to visualize words in new ways.

Gardner, John. A Child's Bestiary. Ill. by Lucy, Joel, Joan and John Gardner. 1977.

A witty collection of appealing poems featuring creatures great and small, with morals to match. Delightful black and white drawings accompany each brief animal poem. Used in grades one to four.

Gwynne, Fred. A Chocolate Moose for Dinner. Ill. by the author. Windmill, 1976.

Vivid illustrations picture thirty-two examples of a child's misinterpretations of words. "Mommy says she had a chocolate moose for dinner" shows a huge brown moose sitting at a table. "Daddy says there should be more car pools" features cars diving and swimming in a huge swimming pool.

Hopkins, Lee Bennett (Selected by). The Sky is Full of Song. Ill. by Dirk Zimmer. Harper, 1983.

Short poems, each with a color line-cut illustration grouped by the four seasons, make this small book appealing to your readers. The poems are good for read-alouds as well as individual poetry reading.

Hughes, Ted. The Tiger's Bones and Other Plays for Children. Ill. by Alan E. Cober. Viking, 1974.

Five unusual poetic plays to be read aloud or to be staged. Could best be used by an interested group of better students who already have done the usual plays for reading aloud.

Keller, Charles (Compiler). Norma Lee I Don't Knock on Doors: Knock, Knock Jokes. Ill. by Paul Galdone. Prentice-Hall, 1983.

A collection of wild "knock-knock" jokes with special appeal for children with a zany sense of humor and a sophisticated level of vocabulary development.

Kuskin, Karla. Near the Window Tree: Poems and Notes. Ill. by author. Harper, 1975.

Children are interested in the format of this book as well as in the poems. The ideas that grow into a poem are presented on one page with the poem itself on the facing page. A fine book to introduce ideas or situations that inspire a poet to create a poem and to call attention to interesting use of words.

Lee, Dennis. Alligator Pie. Ill. by Frank Newfield. Houghton, 1975.

A funny, rhythmic collection of poems with ridiculous combinations of words and ideas. Excellent for introducing poetry, teaching Canadian geography, read-aloud, or pure personal pleasure reading.

Livingston, Myra Colin. The Way Things Are and Other Poems. Ill. by Jenni Oliver. 1974.

Applicable to students, everyday living to which the kids can easily relate. Used in language classes for promoting discussion and giving a bird's-eye view of individual values.

Lobel, Arnold. The Book of Pigericks. Ill. by the author. Harper, 1983.

Thirty-eight pig limericks with imaginative, hog-wild illustrations invite readers and listeners to create their own limericks.

Morley, Diana. Marms in the Marmalade. Ill. by Kathy Rogers. Carolrhoda, 1984.

"Words are usually made in a logical way, or so I've always thought, but on looking more closely I would say they are silly as often as not," says the author. Salty does mean having a lot of salt, but does skinny mean covered with a lot of skin? Etymology illustrated and made fun.

Orgel, Doris. Merry Merry FIBruary. Ill. by Arnold Lobel. Parents', 1977.

A zany look at the days of the month of February, renamed FIBruary. Each day is a glorious fib, told in rhyme that is humorously depicted by Lobel's drawings.

Pizer, Vernon. Ink, Ark, and All That. Ill. by Tom Huffman. Putnam's, 1976.

Social studies and language arts teachers will find this an interesting and valuable source book offering surprising and amusing explanations of how cities and towns in America were named. Children will assimilate historical information as they look for facts about places in which they have lived or studied.

Prelutsky, Jack (Selected by). The Random House Book of Poetry for Children. Ill. by Arnold Lobel. Random, 1983.

Children will enjoy sharing these poems with one another.

Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds. How I Came to Be a Writer. Ill. with memorabilia. Atheneum, 1978.

Through this autobiographical account, Naylor traces the process of becoming a professional writer from her family's early love of literature to the complexities of writing and publishing a book. Photographs of her life along with previous book illustrations are presented in sequence with the text. Examples of Naylor's own writings, from kindergarten to recently published books, prove most intriguing to children.

Rockwell, Thomas. How to Eat Fried Worms and Other Plays. Ill. by Joel Schick. Delacorte, 1980.

This book offers fun for the performers and for the audiences attending the performances. The dialogues for the plays in this collection are easy to read and the staging directions easy to follow.

Sarnoff, Jane, and Reynold Ruffins. The Code & Cipher Book. Ill. by Reynold Ruffins. Scribner's, 1975.

An attractive and varied set of ciphers and codes has been selected for the book. Historical episodes and events and ways of using codes in Elizabethan England and the Middle Ages are depicted in witty illustrations.

Sarnoff, Jane, and Reynold Ruffins. The Monster Riddle Book. Ill. by the authors. Scribner's, 1975.

The book can be used to interest reluctant readers and also to develop awareness of play on words and clever use of double meanings.

Terban, Marvin. Your Foot's on My Feet! and Other Tricky Nouns. Ill. by Giulio Maestro. Clarion, 1986.

Regular nouns, irregular nouns, and those that don't change are featured in zany pictures and verse.

Tashjian, Virginia A. (Selected by). With a Deep Sea Smile: Story Hour Stretches for Large or Small Groups. Ill. by Rosemary Wells. Little, Brown, 1974.

A collection of poetry, prose and verse with subtle humor and well stated themes. In the mode of Juba This, Juba That, by the same author, it is a good stimulus for creative writing, dramatization and independent reading.

Thaler, Mike. Funny Side Up! Ill. by the author. Paper ed., Scholastic, 1985.

A riddle writer shares his process. Students appreciated the helpful tips on writing, illustrating, and publishing riddles.

Thomas, Marlo. Free to Be ... You and Me. McGraw, 1976.

Suited for pupil or teacher use from grade 2 up. It is factual and honest -- teaches self-pride and beauty of individuality. Used for creative writing, oral discussion and music. Fun for just browsing.

Worth, Valerie. More Small Poems. Ill. by Natalie Babbitt. Farrar, 1976.

Twenty-five poems that encourage us to look at mundane, everyday objects in a new way. The unrhymed poems are illustrated realistically and allow the individual to provide the flight of fantasy. Marvelous as read-aloud poems and as stimulants for creative thinking and writing.

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